

## Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission

PO Box 110302 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0302 Main: 907.789-6160 Licensing: 907.789-6150 Fax: 907.789-6170

## **CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT**

December 8, 2021

Brett Wilbanks, Chairman ShrimpPros Association Box 512 Girdwood, AK 99587 Bruce Bowman, Vice Chairman ShrimpPros Association HC 60 Box 227 I Copper Center, AK 99573

Re: Petition to limit entry in the Prince William Sound shrimp pot fishery

Dear Sirs:

We received your petition to limit entry in the Prince William Sound shrimp pot fishery on December 6, 2021. Thank you for contacting CFEC regarding this important matter.

Under AS 44.62.230, the Commission has 30 days after a petition for limited entry is received to either propose maximum number regulations and schedule public hearings, or deny the petition in writing. It would not be possible to determine if a program of limited entry is appropriate in this fishery within the 30 days allowed. Therefore, your petition must be denied at this time.

Nevertheless, be assured that we are aware of your concerns. In response to your inquiry we have requested that CFEC research staff gather relevant data about this fishery and provide a report to the Commission. This information will help us evaluate the need for limited entry and any potential benefits the program might convey to the fishery, while at the same time ensuring that the Commission meets its statutory obligations under the limited entry program.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.

By Direction of the COMMERCIAL FISHERIES ENTRY COMMISSION

Melvin Smith

Melvin Smith

Chair

Dale Kelley

Commissioner

Dale Kelley